

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the present application. By this Response, claims 1, 9, 17 and 20-24 are amended. Independent claims 1, 9 and 17 are amended to recite identifying a modification to a network that is to be made and identifying a send queue that is to be affected by the modification. Support for the amendments to these claims may be found at least at page 32 of the present specification. Claims 20-24 are amended for clarification purposes only in view of the amendments to claim 17. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Telephone Interview

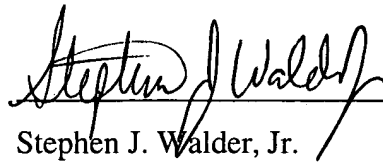
Applicants thank Examiner Bates and Primary Examiner Patrice Winder for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the September 8, 2004 telephone interview. During the interview, Examiners Bates and Winder agreed that the above amendments to independent claims 1, 9 and 17 would define over the applied reference Gerardin (U.S. Patent No. 6,222,822). Therefore, it is Applicants' understanding that all of claims 1-24 now define subject matter that is not anticipated or obviated by Gerardin and, unless other more material prior art is found to be applicable, the present application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Gerardin.

II. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over Gerardin and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Stephen J. Walder, Jr.
Reg. No. 41,534
Yee & Associates, P.C.
P.O. Box 802333
Dallas, TX 75380
(972) 367-2001
Attorney for Applicants